# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# RURAL DEVELOPMENT
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3484
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2001
CHANGE IN RURAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government propose to gradually replace the supply-driven, non-people participating Rural Water Supply Scheme by a people oriented, de-centralised and demand based Rural Water Supply Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which to this change has been initiated;

(d) whether any States have gone ahead and brought the required changes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT(SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL)

(a) Yes, sir.

(b) & (c) Reforms have been introduced in the rural water supply sector to institutionalise community participation in the rural water supply activities to ensure long term sustainability of the systems and sources used for providing drinking water in rural habitations. The reforms envisage gradual replacement of supply-driven, Government-oriented, centralised Rural Water Supply Programme by a demand-driven, decentralised, community-oriented programme. These reforms are implemented in a project mode and 63 districts in 26 States have been identified by the Government for implementing these Sector Reform Projects on pilot basis. Under these projects, the community is required to actively participate in planning, sanctioning, part funding, implementing, operating & maintaining and managing the rural water supply schemes of their own choice. Projects for 62 districts have been sanctioned with a total outlay of Rs.1860 crores, out of which Government of India share is Rs.1736 crores approximately and Rs.498 crores have been released.

(d) & (e) Necessary preliminary action for implementation of the projects has been initiated in most of the pilot districts. Being process projects, these are at various stages of implementation. Some are in institutionalisation phase and many others are in sensitisation phase. In some districts, hardware component phase has also commenced. As per the information received till now, 612 Rural Water Supply schemes have been completed and handed over to the community in Khammam district of Andhra Pradesh and Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Vellore and Perambalur (composite) of Tamil Nadu.